

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 157

By Cooper B

A RESOLUTION relative to studying the feasibility of creating a residential school and training center for youth in T.O. Fuller State Park.

WHEREAS, all children, particularly those who are socially and financially disadvantaged, deserve an opportunity to realize their full potential; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly recognizes the state's responsibility to assist youth in maximizing their individual talents and becoming productive citizens of this state; and

WHEREAS, the Milton Hershey School, located in Hershey, Pennsylvania, provides an ideal model for a residential school and training center; and

WHEREAS, the Hershey School has experienced immense success in the education and training of financially needy children in grades K-12; and

WHEREAS, there is available a suitable amount of land in T.O. Fuller State Park to house a facility similar to the Milton Hershey School or to support a youth summer camp that espouses goals similar to those of the Hershey School; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly recognizes the tremendous positive impact this kind of project could have for the citizens of this state; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that there is hereby created a special joint committee to study the feasibility of establishing a residential school and training center, or in the alternative, a summer camp for socially and financially disadvantaged youth, to be located at T.O. Fuller State Park. The study shall address the costs and need for capital projects associated with this project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the committee shall consist of three (3) members of the House of Representatives and three (3) members of the Senate, to be appointed by the respective speakers.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all appropriate state agencies shall provide assistance to the special joint committee upon request of the chair.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all legislative members of the special joint committee who are duly elected members of the General Assembly shall remain members of such committee until the committee reports its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the special joint committee shall be convened by the member with the most years of continuous service in the General Assembly, and at its first meeting shall elect a chair, vice-chair, and such other officers the committee deems necessary.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the special joint committee shall timely report its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the One Hundred Fifth General Assembly no later than January 30, 2008, at which time the committee shall cease to exist.